

## CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A method of conducting a game of chance by a game of chance administrator wherein an entrant pays an entry fee and obtains a chance to win a predetermined payout, said method comprising the steps of:

selecting a subject of said game of chance;

establishing measured performance criteria relating to said subject of said game of chance;

establishing a number of participants  $n$  in said subject of said game of chance;

establishing a number of participants  $r$  whose measured performance will be combined for purposes of said game of chance;

determining each permutation  $nPr$  of  $n$  participants whose performances will be combined in groups of  $r$  in said game of chance;

creating a game record for each said permutation;

assigning each said game record a unique game record identifier;

establishing a predetermined sum to be paid out for winning entrants;

receiving an entry fee from an entrant in exchange for assignment to the entrant of one of said permutations, as evidenced by said unique game record identifier;

providing the entrant with access to said permutation assigned to the entrant;

determining the winning combination following the event or group of events on which the game of chance is based; and

paying said predetermined payout sum to the entrant holding the winning permutation.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said creating a game record step further comprises the step of creating a paper game record having said unique game record identifier printed thereon.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein said paper game record further comprises:  
a game entrant record portion having said unique game record identifier printed thereon;

an game administrative record portion having said unique game record identifier printed thereon; and

a perforation separating said game entrant record portion from said game administrative record portion, so that said game entrant record portion is retained by the entrant and said game administrative portion is retained by the game administrator.

4. The method of claim 2, wherein said game entrant record portion has an entrant payout chart printed thereon, said entrant payout chart including at least one said permutation assigned to the entrant, said permutation corresponding to said unique game record identifier.

5. The method of claim 1, further comprising an additional step of combining at least two said subjects of said game of chance to form a subject set and entrant is assigned a permutation for each of said subjects.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein said subject of said game of chance comprises football games played by teams of the National Football League during a designated game week and step of establishing a number of participants is said subject of said game of chance comprises using the number of teams playing in the National Football League.

7. The method of claim 5, wherein said subject set comprises at least two designated weekends of football games played by teams of the National Football League.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein said step of creating a record for each said permutation comprises creating said record in a computer database, wherein said step of assigning each said record a unique game record identifier comprises assigning said unique game record identifier to said record in said computer database, and wherein said step of providing the entrant with access to said permutation assigned to the entrant comprises directing the entrant to an internet web site where the entrant can access said corresponding permutation by entering the entrant's said unique game record identifier.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein said subject of said game of chance is a marathon and said step of establishing a number of participants comprises selecting prior year participants having a time less than a predetermined maximum.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein said step of establishing measured performance criteria relating to said subject of said game of chance comprises establishment of said selected participants' time for completion of said marathon.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein said step of establishing a number of participants whose measured performance will be combined for purposes of said game of chance comprises combining the measured performances of at least two participants.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein said step of receiving an entree fee from an entrant is accomplished by a processing entrant's credit card charge.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein said processing of entrant's credit card charge occurs over the internet.

14. The method of claim 8, wherein said step of receiving an entree fee from an entrant is accomplished by a processing entrant's credit card charge.

15. The method of claim 13, wherein said processing of entrant's credit card charge occurs over the internet.

16. The method of claim 1, wherein each entrant having a permutation containing said winning combination in any order receives a payout of the predetermined payout sum.